Approved For Release 2005/02/17 : CIA-RDP75-00793R000200140052-6

0972-1253

Executive Registry
72-2393/A

23 AUG 1972

Mr. Felix Belair, Jr.
The New York Times
1920 L Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear Mr. Belair:

We have completed the search for and review of documents requested by your letter of July 31, 1972.

The responsible components have reviewed your requests and have concluded that the documents in question must remain classified. Your requests accordingly are denied. As to the general request in the second sentence of your paragraph 2, that is, "any material defining U. S. interest in Laos about that time," we have not been able to locate documents fitting that description. Accordingly, the request cannot be processed further without additional identifying information.

You may appeal these decisions directly to the Central Intelligence Agency Information Review Committee, established pursuant to Section 7(B)(2) of Executive Order 11652. Such an appeal should be by letter or other written communication, addressed to the above-named Committee, in care of the undersigned, and should (1) indicate the decision or decisions being appealed, and (2) present any information or justification you wish to submit.

Sincerely,

/s/ Angus MacLean Thuermer

Angus MacLean Thuermer
Assistant to the Director

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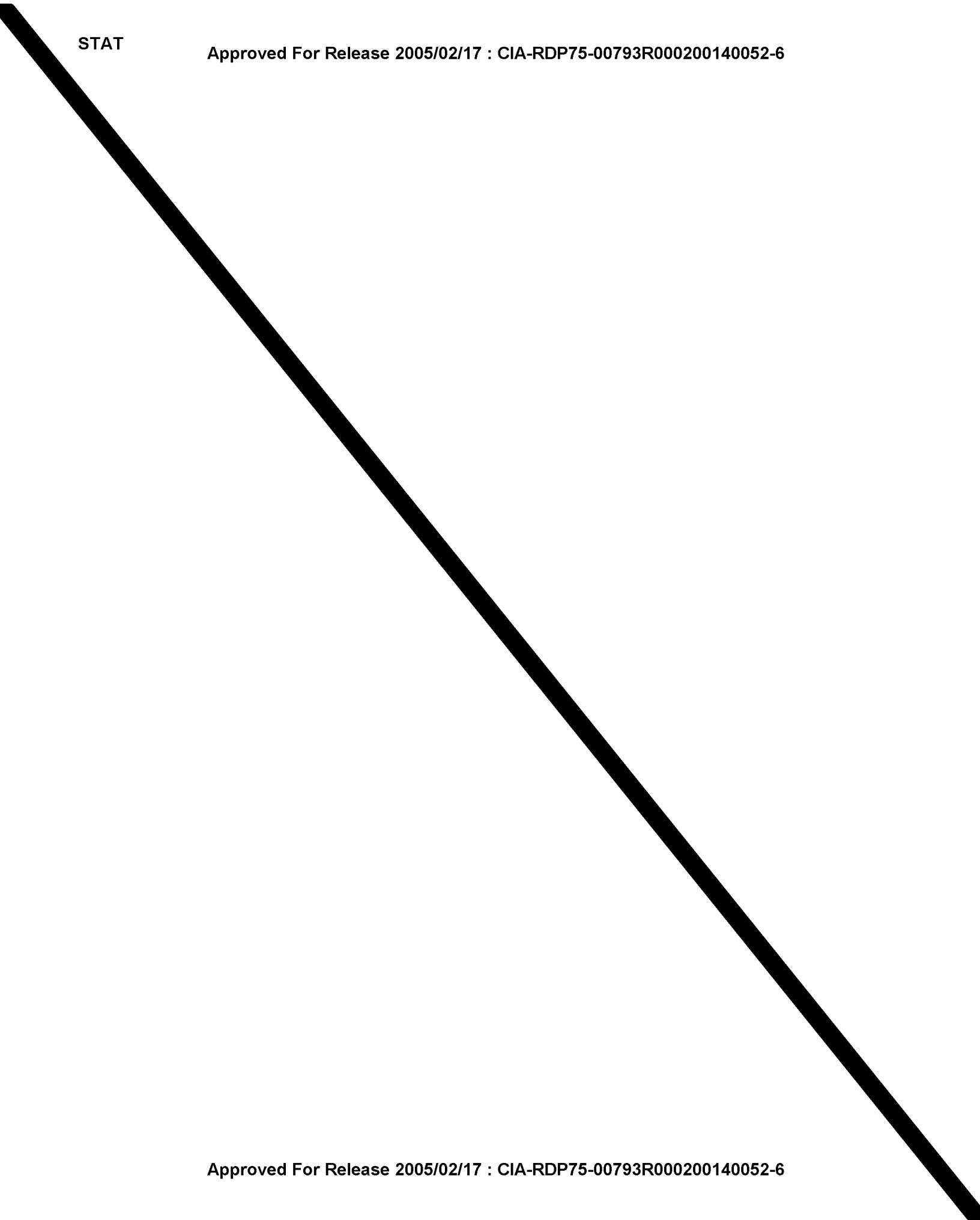

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	APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT		FILE		RETURN
	CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE

Remarks:

Attached is a copy of our response to the New York Times request of 31 July (copy of which you have). SAIC copy will be the record copy and you should destroy yours when they are no longer of use to you. If you need copies at some later time, we can always provide them.

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER

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NOTE ATTACHED TO LETTER TO MR. FELIX BELAIR, JR. DATED 23 AUG. 1972

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